

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

REC'D 23 JAN 2004

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

WIPO

PCT

Applicant's or agent's file reference 742/234	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US02/32633	International filing date (day/month/year) 10 October 2002 (10.10.2002)	Priority date (day/month/year) 04 December 2001 (04.12.2001)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(7): B25B 23/16 and US Cl.: 81/177.85; 403/325		
Applicant JODA ENTERPRISES, INC.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

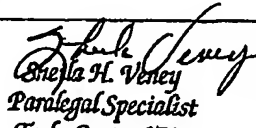
These annexes consist of a total of 4 sheets.

EPO - DG 1

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

08.03.2004

- |      |                                     |   |       |
|------|-------------------------------------|---|-------|
| I    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Basis of the report   | (107) |
| II   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Priority  |       |
| III  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability   |       |
| IV   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Lack of unity of invention  |       |
| V    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |       |
| VI   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Certain documents cited   |       |
| VII  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Certain defects in the international application  |       |
| VIII | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Certain observations on the international application   |       |

Date of submission of the demand 13 June 2003 (13.06.2003)	Date of completion of this report 10 December 2003 (10.12.2003)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703)305-3230	Authorized officer James G. Smith Telephone No. 703-308-1148   Shelia H. Venev Paralegal Specialist Tech. Center 3700

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US02/32633

## I. Basis of the report

## 1. With regard to the elements of the international application:\*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description:  
pages 1-8 as originally filed  
pages NONE, filed with the demand  
pages NONE, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ the claims:  
pages NONE, as originally filed  
pages NONE, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19  
pages NONE, filed with the demand  
pages 9-12, filed with the letter of 14 October 2003 (14.10.2003)
- ☒ the drawings:  
pages 1, as originally filed  
pages NONE, filed with the demand  
pages NONE, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:  
pages NONE, as originally filed  
pages NONE, filed with the demand  
pages NONE, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language \_\_\_\_\_ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

## 3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in printed form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages NONE
- ☐ the claims, Nos. 2,4,6
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig NONE

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).\*\*

\* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

\*\* Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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International application No.

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III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The question whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been and will not be examined in respect of:

- ☐ the entire international application,  
☒ claims Nos. 3, 9/3 and 13-19

because:

- ☐ the said international application, or the said claim Nos. \_\_\_\_\_ relate to the following subject matter which does not require international preliminary examination (*specify*):

- ☒ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. 3, 9/3 and 13-19 are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

Claim 18 is inoperative as it lacks sufficient structure to operate, i.e. a sliding sleeve, which is only recited in claim 19.  
 Claim 3 is inoperative as the spring cannot engage the shoulder if it is larger than the shoulder as broadly claimed.  
 Claim 19, there is no antecedent basis for "the ring".

- ☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. \_\_\_\_\_ are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

- ☒ no international search report has been established for said claims Nos. 3, 9/3 and 13-17

2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:

- ☐ the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.  
☐ the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

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International application No.  
PCT/US02/32633

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. STATEMENT

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1, 5, 7, 8, 9/1, 10-12</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims <u>1, 5, 7, 8, 9/1, 10-12</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1, 5, 7, 8, 9/1, 10-12</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 9/1 and 10-12 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the use of two rings between which the spring is secured.

Claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 9/1 and 10-12 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus have industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----